Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1   1.   (previously presented): A method for selling information to a
2 buyer, the method comprising:
3   receiving an offer from a buyer for information wherein the offer includes
4 at least one contingency that provides an uncertainty of an event related to the
5 information occurring;
6   providing the information from a seller in response to the offer, the
7 information including at least one condition about the at least one contingency,
8 wherein satisfaction of the at least one condition will resolve the uncertainty of
9 the event occurring to satisfy at least one of the contingencies and will trigger at
10 least part of a payment from the buyer, and wherein acceptance of the at least one
11 condition forms a contract and the at least one condition is unsatisfied when the
12 information is provided; and
13   receiving the at least part of the payment upon the satisfaction of the at
14 least one condition after the information has been provided to the buyer and the
15 buyer has subsequently determined that the at least one condition has resolved the
16 uncertainty of the event occurring to satisfy the at least one contingency.

1   2.   (previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 1, further
2 comprising receiving a base payment as the at least part of the payment when the
3 information has been provided to the buyer.

1   3.   (previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 1, further
2 comprising adjusting an amount for the at least part of the payment based on a
3 probability that the condition for the contingency will occur.

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1   4.   (previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 3, further

2   comprising:

3   selecting an announced probability for the condition to resolve the

4   uncertainty to satisfy the contingency; and

5   determining the amount for the at least part of the payment based on a

6   function which uses the announced probability for the condition for the

7   contingency occurring.

1   5.   (previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 4, wherein

2   the amount of the at least part of the payment is maximized when the announced

3   probability for the condition occurring is substantially the same as a true

4   probability for the condition occurring.

1   6.   (previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 1, further

2   comprising setting the condition to resolve the uncertainty to satisfy the

3   contingency in the received offer.

1   7.   (previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 6, further

2   comprising:

3   sending a counteroffer to the buyer based on the offer, the counteroffer

4   providing the condition set to resolve the uncertainty to satisfy the contingency to

5   the buyer; and

6   determining if the counteroffer with the condition set is accepted by the

7   buyer, wherein the information is only provided upon the condition set being

8   accepted.

1   Claim 8 (cancelled).

1   Claim 9 (cancelled).

1   10.   (previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein

2   one or more of the steps are carried out electronically.

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1   11.   (previously presented): A system for selling information to a

2   buyer, the system comprising:

3   a receiving system that receives an offer from a buyer for information

4   wherein the offer includes at least one contingency that provides an uncertainty of

5   an event related to the information occurring;

6   a source for the information that provides the information in response to

7   the offer, the information including at least one condition about the at least one

8   contingency, wherein satisfaction of the at least one condition will resolve the

9   uncertainty of the event occurring to satisfy at least one of the contingencies and

10   will trigger at least part of a payment from the buyer, and wherein acceptance of

11   the at least one condition forms a contract and the at least one condition is

12   unsatisfied when the information is provided; and

13   a contingent payment processing system that receives the at least part of

14   the payment upon the satisfaction of the at least one condition after the

15   information has been provided to the buyer and the buyer has subsequently

16   determined that the at least one condition has resolved the uncertainty of the event

17   occurring to satisfy the at least one contingency.

1   12.   (previously presented): The system as set forth in claim 11, further

2   comprising a base payment processing system that receives a base payment as the

3   at least part of the payment when the information has been provided.

1   13.   (previously presented): The system as set forth in claim 11,

2   wherein the contingency payment processing system adjusts an amount for the at

3   least part of the payment based on a probability that the condition to resolve the

4   uncertainty to satisfy the contingency occurs.

1   14.   (previously presented): The system as set forth in claim 13,

2   wherein the contingency payment processing system selects an announced

3   probability to resolve the uncertainty to satisfy the condition for the contingency

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4   and a function for determining the amount for the at least part of the payment

5   based on the announced probability for the condition for the contingency

6   occurring.

1   15.   (previously presented): The system as set forth in claim 14,

2   wherein the contingency payment processing system maximizes the amount of the

3   contingent payment when the announced probability for the condition occurring is

4   substantially the same as a true probability for the condition occurring.

1   16.   (previously presented): The system as set forth in claim 11, further

2   comprising a condition setting system which sets the condition to resolve the

3   uncertainty to satisfy the contingency in the received offer.

1   17.   (previously presented): The system as set forth in claim 16, further

2   comprising:

3   a counteroffer system that sends a counteroffer to the buyer based on the

4   offer, the counteroffer provides the condition set to resolve the uncertainty to

5   satisfy the contingency to the buyer; and

6   purchase decision system that determines if the counteroffer with the

7   condition set is accepted by the buyer, wherein the information is only provided

8   upon the condition set being accepted.

1   Claim 18 (cancelled).

1   Claim 19 (cancelled).

1   20.   (previously presented): The system as set forth in claim 11,

2   wherein the receiving system receives the offer and the source of the information

3   provides the information electronically.

1   21.   (previously presented): A computer readable medium having

2   stored instructions for selling contingent information which when executed by a

3   processor, causes the processor to perform:

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4   receiving an offer from a buyer for information wherein the offer includes

5   at least one contingency that provides an uncertainty of an event related to the

6   information occurring;

7   providing the information from a seller in response to the offer, the

8   information including at least one condition about the at least one contingency,

9   wherein satisfaction of the at least one condition will resolve the uncertainty of

10   the event occurring to satisfy at least one of the contingencies and will trigger at

11   least part of a payment from the buyer, and wherein acceptance of the at least one

12   condition forms a contract and the at least one condition is unsatisfied when the

13   information is provided; and

14   receiving the at least part of the payment upon the satisfaction of the at

15   least one condition after the information has been provided to the buyer and the

16   buyer has subsequently determined that the at least one condition has resolved the

17   uncertainty of the event occurring to satisfy the at least one contingency.

1   22.   (previously presented): The medium as set forth in claim 22,

2   further comprising receiving a base payment as the at least part of the payment

3   when the information has been provided to the buyer.

1   23.   (previously presented): The medium as set forth in claim 22,

2   further comprising adjusting an amount for the at least part of the payment based

3   on an announced probability that the condition to resolve the uncertainty to satisfy

4   the contingency will occur.

1   24.   (previously presented): The medium as set forth in claim 23,

2   further comprising:

3   selecting the announced probability for the condition for the contingency;

4   and

5   determining the amount for the at least part of the payment based on a

6   function which uses the announced probability for the condition for the

7   contingency occurring.

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1   25.   (previously presented): The medium as set forth in claim 24,

2 wherein the amount of the at least part of the payment is maximized when the

3 announced probability for the condition occurring is substantially the same as a

4 true probability for the condition occurring.

1   26.   (previously presented): The medium as set forth in claim 21,

2 further comprising setting the condition to resolve the uncertainty to satisfy the

3 contingency in the received offer.

1   27.   (previously presented): The medium as set forth in claim 26,

2 further comprising:

3   sending a counteroffer to the buyer based on the offer, the counteroffer

4 providing the condition set to resolve the uncertainty to satisfy the contingency to

5 the buyer; and

6   determining if the counteroffer with the condition set is accepted by the

7 buyer, wherein the information is only provided upon the condition set being

8 accepted.

1   Claim 28 (cancelled).

1   Claim 29 (cancelled).

1   30.   (previously presented): The medium as set forth in claim 21,

2 wherein one or more of the steps are carried out electronically.

1   31.   (previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein

2 the information from the seller in response to the offer is provided without a

3 payment from the buyer.

1   32.   (previously presented): The system as set forth in claim 11,

2 wherein the information from the seller in response to the offer is provided

3 without a payment from the buyer.

1   33.   (previously presented): The medium as set forth in claim 21,

2   wherein the information from the seller in response to the offer is provided

3   without a payment from the buyer.